



U.S. Department of Justice

**Stephen J. Murphy
United States Attorney
Eastern District of Michigan**

*Suite 2001
211 West Fort Street
Detroit, Michigan 48226-3277
Fax: (313) 226-3561*

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Gina Balaya (313) 226-9758

Aug 20, 2007

EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Aisha Griffin

**FORMER VETERAN AFFAIRS EMPLOYEE SENTENCED
FOR STEALING DRUGS**

A former pharmacy technician at the Veteran Affairs Medial Center in Detroit was sentenced to 5 months in prison, 5 months home confinement and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$50,975.70 by a federal judge after pleading guilty to stealing prescription drugs, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced. Joining U.S. Attorney Murphy in the announcement were John W. Brooks, Special Agent in Charge, Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Inspector General and Robert Corso, Special Agent in Charge, Drug Enforcement Administration.

Aisha Griffin, 31, of Detroit, was sentenced by United States District Court Judge Paul D. Borman.

The evidence presented to the court at the time of Griffin's plea showed that on June 28, 2006, agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration conducted a search at Griffin's home and found five pounds of marijuana, packaging material and a scale along with

approximately 70 bottles of prescription medication. The prescription medication most of which was still in the manufacturer's bottles, was traced back to the Veteran Affairs Medical Center in Detroit where Griffin was employed as a pharmacy technician. With the assistance of the VA Pharmacy staff over twenty different prescription medications of varying strength, many of which were uncommon and expensive drugs, were identified. The total loss to the Department of Veterans Affairs exceeded \$50,000. Griffin maintained the prescription medication knowing it had been embezzled or stolen intending to convert the drugs to her own use.

Mr. Murphy commended the work of the Drug Enforcement Administration as well as the special agents of the Office of Inspector General, Department of Veteran's Affairs.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jeanine Jones.